

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 201238

62

ORIGIN IO-13

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 DLOS-06 AF-08 ARA-06 EA-07 EUR-12 OES-06

SAL-01 /116 R

DRAFTED BY IO/ML:JLWASHBURN:SGH

APPROVED BY IO/ML:PWKRIEBEL

NEA/INS:ATHIBAULT

USIA/INA:CSNOW (SUBT)

IO/UNP:DMACUK

PM/ISO:JKIMBALL

----- 107859

P 130022Z AUG 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY COLOMBO PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PORG, PARM

SUBJECT: MULTILATERAL AFFAIRS: IOPZ INFORMATION FOR NAM  
SUMMIT

REF: A) COLOMBO 2767; B) STATE 98319

1. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF ONLY US EXPLANATION OF VOTE ON  
UNGA RESOLUTIONS ON IOPZ. IT WAS GIVEN IN UNGA FIRST COM-  
MITTEE IN 1971. THIS REMAINS US POSITION IN UNGA: INSTRUC-  
TIONS TO US DEL TO 1975 UNGA ON DISCRETIONARY EXPLANATION  
(WHICH WAS NOT MADE) PARALLELED 1971 STATEMENT BELOW.

QUOTE. THE UNITED STATE SHARES THE DESIRE WHICH WE BELIEVE  
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PAGE 02 STATE 201238

MOTIVATES THE SPONSORS OF THE DRAFT RESOLUTIONS BEFORE US,

THAT IS, TO PROMOTE CONDITIONS OF PEACE AND TRANQUILLITY IN THE INDIAN OCEAN AREA AND, IN THAT CONNECTION, TO SEEK TO AVOID A COMPETITIVE EXPANSION OF MILITARY STRENGTH ON THE PART OF THE MAJOR POWERS. THIS MOTIVATION, OF COURSE, IS HEIGHTENED BY THE TRAGIC EVENTS NOW TAKING PLACE IN THE INDIAN SUBCONTINENT.

THE UNITED STATES BELIEVES, HOWEVER, THAT THERE ARE A NUMBER OF DIFFICULTIES WITH THIS DECLARATION. TO BEGIN WITH, THE DECLARATION GOES FAR BEYOND THE USUAL PRACTICE OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY WHEN CONSIDERING A MATTER AS COMPLEX AS THIS FOR THE FIRST TIME. IT ACTUALLY PLACES THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY IN THE POSITION OF APPROVING GENERAL LANGUAGE IN AN AREA WHICH INFRINGES UPON DISARMAMENT AND THE LAW OF THE SEA WITHOUT THE USUAL CAREFUL CONSIDERATION ASSOCIATED WITH THESE SUBJECTS. ALL MEMBERS ARE AWARE THAT FOR SOME TIME THE UNITED NATIONS HAS BEEN ACTIVELY PREPARING FOR A LAW OF THE SEA CONFERENCE IN 1973. THE UNITED STATES IS CONCERNED THAT RESOLUTIONS SUCH AS THE CEYLONESE PROPOSAL, PURPORTING TO ESTABLISH SPECIAL REGIMES FOR PARTICULAR AREAS, WILL UNDERCUT THIS MOST IMPORTANT UNITED NATIONS OBJECTIVE OF ACHIEVING A WORLD-WIDE LAW OF THE SEA. THIS IS PARTICULARLY TRUE WHERE THE LANGUAGE OF THE DECLARATION RAISES QUESTIONS REGARDING SUCH BASIC PRINCIPLES AS FREEDOM OF NAVIGATION ON THE HIGH SEAS. WE REJECT THE VIEW THAT A GROUP OF STATES IN A CERTAIN REGION CAN ESTABLISH A LEGAL REGIME FOR THE HIGH SEAS IN THAT REGION. THIS MAY AFFECT THE FUNDAMENTAL SECURITY INTERESTS NOT ONLY OF STATES COMPELLED TO MAINTAIN SIGNIFICANT MILITARY PREPAREDNESS IN THIS ALL TOO IMPERFECT WORLD, BUT ALSO OF STATES THAT RELY ON THE STABILITY CREATED BY A POLITICAL AND MILITARY BALANCE IN ORDER TO PURSUE OTHER IMPORTANT NATIONAL GOALS AND TO AVOID DIVERTING TOO MUCH OF THEIR ATTENTION AND RESOURCES TO MATTERS OF SECURITY.

A DECLARATION SUCH AS WE ARE NOW CONSIDERING COULD BE A DANGEROUS PRECEDENT WHICH COULD HINDER THE CHANCES OF A SUCCESSFUL LAW OF THE SEA CONFERENCE. THIS IN ITSELF WOULD BE A SHAME, BECAUSE I AM SURE THERE ARE MANY COUNTRIES THAT SEE IN THIS CONFERENCE THE OPPORTUNITY

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PAGE 03 STATE 201238

TO ACHIEVE RESULTS OF SIGNIFICANT INTEREST TO THEM. END QUOTE.

2. ON BASIS OF THIS POSITION WE HAVE CONSISTANTLY DECLINED TO ATTEND IOPZ AD HOC COMMITTEE SESSIONS AND SIMILAR MEETINGS IN NEW YORK, AS HAVE UK, FRANCE, AND USSR. MISSION MAY WISH TO NOTE NON-PARTICIPATION OF USSR DISCREETLY WITH APPROPRIATE INQUIRERS, BUT SHOULD NOT

GET INTO POSITION OF APPEARING TO DESCRIBE IOPZ POSITIONS  
OF OTHER COUNTRIES OR OF PUBLICLY CHALLENGING USSR ON  
THE ISSUE.

3. UNGA RESOLUTION 3648(XXX) ON IOPZ PASSED PLENARY  
106 - 0 WITH 25 ABSTENTIONS (US). ABSTAINERS WERE:  
AUSTRIA, BELGIUM, BULGARIA, BYELORUSSIAN SSR, CANADA.  
CUBA, CZECHOSLOVAKIA, DENMARK, FRANCE, GERMAN DEMOCRATIC  
REPUBLIC, FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY, GREECE, HUNGARY,  
IRELAND, ISRAEL, ITALY, LUXEMBOURG, MONGOLIA, NETHERLANDS,  
NORWAY, POLAND, UKRAINIAN SSR, USSR, UNITED KINGDOM,  
UNITED STATES.

4. MISSION MAY ALSO FIND HELPFUL ADMINISTRATION'S REPORT  
TO CONGRESS ON INDIAN OCEAN ARMS LIMITATION INITIATIVES  
(REF B), PARA 2 ON OUR WILLINGNESS TO GIVE CONSIDERATION  
TO SOME LIMITATIONS AT A LATER DATE AND PARA 6 ON OUR  
POLICY OF RESTRAINT ARE PARTICULARLY USEFUL.

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PEACE, MEETING VOTING RECORDS, UNGA RESOLUTIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 13 AUG 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** izenbei0  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Document Unique ID:** 00  
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**Film Number:** D760311-0254  
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**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
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**Legacy Key:** link1976/newtext/t19760855/aaaabvnn.tel  
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**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ORIGIN IO  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
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**Subject:** MULTILATERAL AFFAIRS: IOPZ INFORMATION FOR NAM SUMMIT  
**TAGS:** PFOR, PORG, PARM, CE, US, XO  
**To:** COLOMBO  
**Type:** TE  
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